

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 191

May 24, 1995, 3:03 p.m.
Page S-7345 Temp. Record

BUDGET RESOLUTION/Fiscal Dividend and Agricultural Spending

SUBJECT: Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 1996-2002 . . . S. Con. Res. 13. Exon motion to waive section 305(b) of the Budget Act for the consideration of the Exon amendment No. 1151.

ACTION: MOTION REJECTED, 31-69

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. Con. Res. 13, the fiscal year 1996 Concurrent Budget Resolution, will reduce projected spending over 7 years to balance the budget by fiscal year (FY) 2002 without increasing taxes. Savings that will accrue from lower debt service payments (an estimated \$170 billion) will be dedicated to a reserve fund, which may be used for tax reductions after enactment of laws to ensure a balanced budget. Highlights include the following: the rate of growth in Medicare will be slowed to 7.1 percent; Medicaid's rate of growth will be slowed to 5 percent and it will be transformed into a block grant program; the Commerce Department and more than 100 other Federal programs, agencies, and commissions will be eliminated; welfare and housing programs will be reformed; agriculture, energy, and transportation subsidies will be cut; foreign aid will be cut; defense spending will be cut and then allowed to increase back to its 1995 level; and Social Security will not be altered.

The Exon amendment would provide that of the additional deficit reduction (as reported by the Congressional Budget Office) that may accrue as a result of passing legislation to balance the budget (the fiscal dividend), \$15 billion could be spent by raising the outlay authority of the Agricultural Committee by \$15 billion. The amendment would partially restore the reductions in outlays below currently projected spending levels that this resolution will require the Agriculture Committee to make.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, some statements on amendments were added to the record or were made before the amendments were offered and before debate time had expired. Also, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of time was allowed on each amendment for explanatory statements before each vote. Senator Domenici raised the point of order that the amendment violated section 305(b) of the Budget Act. Senator Exon then moved to waive that section. Generally, those favoring the motion to waive favored the amendment; those opposing the motion to waive opposed the amendment.

NOTE: The motion to waive section 305(b) requires a three-fifths majority (60) vote.

(See other side)

YEAS (31)			NAYS (69)			NOT VOTING (0)	
Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (30 or 65%)		Republicans (53 or 98%)	Democrats (16 or 35%)		Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Jeffords	Akaka	Heflin	Abraham	Helms	Biden		
	Baucus	Hollings	Ashcroft	Hutchison	Boxer		
	Bingaman	Inouye	Bennett	Inhofe	Bradley		
	Breaux	Johnston	Bond	Kassebaum	Bryan		
	Bumpers	Kennedy	Brown	Kempthorne	Glenn		
	Byrd	Kerrey	Burns	Kyl	Graham		
	Conrad	Kohl	Campbell	Lott	Kerry		
	Daschle	Leahy	Chafee	Lugar	Lautenberg		
	Dodd	Moseley-Braun	Coats	Mack	Levin		
	Dorgan	Murray	Cochran	McCain	Lieberman		
	Exon	Nunn	Cohen	McConnell	Mikulski		
	Feingold	Pryor	Coverdell	Murkowski	Moynihan		
	Feinstein	Robb	Craig	Nickles	Pell		
	Ford	Simon	D'Amato	Packwood	Reid		
	Harkin	Wellstone	DeWine	Pressler	Rockefeller		
			Dole	Roth	Sarbanes		
			Domenici	Santorum			
			Faircloth	Shelby			
			Frist	Simpson			
			Gorton	Smith			
			Gramm	Snowe			
			Grams	Specter			
			Grassley	Stevens			
			Gregg	Thomas			
			Hatch	Thompson			
			Hatfield	Thurmond			
				Warner			
						EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:	
						1—Official Business	
						2—Necessarily Absent	
						3—Illness	
						4—Other	
						SYMBOLS:	
						AY—Announced Yea	
						AN—Announced Nay	
						PY—Paired Yea	
						PN—Paired Nay	

Compiled and written by the staff of the Republican Policy Committee—Don Nickles, Chairman

Those favoring the motion to waive contended:

The harsh Republican cuts in Agriculture programs will contribute to the further deterioration of the economic and social fabric of America. Farmers are among the most fiscally conservative people in America. They strongly support a balanced budget. However, they should not be asked to bear a disproportionate share of the burden in achieving that balance. Within the last decade farm producers have seen commodity program spending decline more than 60 percent. This budget resolution will reduce funding for the Agriculture Department by \$45.9 billion over the next 7 years, which will translate into a roughly \$12 billion (20 percent) cut in farm programs. This cut is unfair.

This reduced funding will also cause great harm for poorer Americans, especially children, who rely on food assistance. In total, this budget resolution will cut \$20 billion out of the Food Stamp program. We cannot overstate our opposition to cutting the Food Stamp program, especially in those States that do not provide large cash welfare benefits. In such States, the Food Stamp program is the main social safety net for children.

The Exon amendment would increase support for farmers, and would increase support for poor children, by providing that \$15 billion of the expected \$170 billion fiscal dividend would be spent on agricultural programs. The remainder could still be used for tax cuts. We urge our colleagues to join us in voting in favor of this amendment.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the motion to waive.